



MLTI Update

October 2005

Quick Tips

Graphic Organizers

- If you don't have mind-mapping software (like Inspiration®) make your own webs and other organizers in AppleWorks Draw (see
<http://www.somers.k12.ny.us/intranet/skills/thinkmaps.html>)
- Use color in your graphic organizers to help kids see related items, e.g. each topic and its related subtopics are a specific color.
- Have kids create graphic organizers as a study guide for a test.

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Octoberfest!

Nights are longer, days are cooler, and we hear there is serious partying going on somewhere. If you're not feeling very Octoberfest-ive, try reading this month's issue of *MLTI Update*. Surely you will find something to celebrate here...

Award for Bette

We are very pleased to announce that one of our own, Bette Manchester, is the recipient of the first *Dr. Inabeth Miller Education Technology Award*. Bette received the award at the National Education Summit in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The award honors the late Dr. Inabeth Miller, a nationally known leader, advisor, and instructor in the use of technology to foster learning in children and adults.



The award committee selected Bette because in her work with MLTI she has displayed the same qualities that made Dr. Miller a success including leadership, mentoring, innovation, passion and collaboration. In the words of Dr. Linda Roberts, former Director of Educational Technology for the U.S. Department of Education, "At every step of the way, Bette has been able to bring along the reluctant and the skeptical and made sure that resources were in place and that they worked."

Anyone who has attended an MLTI Regional Meeting or any other event where Bette has spoken about MLTI has heard her talk about the importance of leadership. One of our biggest "lessons learned" from this project has been that the success of MLTI in each individual school begins with the leadership team of principal, teacher leader and technology coordinator. In Bette's work with MLTI she has modeled the kind of leadership that is necessary for the success of this project.

Please join us in congratulating Bette on this well-deserved recognition.

MLTI Regional Meetings

The Fall 2005 round of MLTI Regional Meetings are being held this month and next month in each of the nine regions. The Regional Meetings provide an opportunity for principals, tech coordinators and teacher leaders to share their successes, get information about the project and meet in job-alike groups to discuss concerns.

The agenda for this round of meetings includes important information about the end of the 4 year lease with Apple and the future of



MLTI. This is important information that can help schools plan their budgets for next year. Attending the meeting gives participants an opportunity to ask questions and receive clarifications.

To register for a Regional Meeting, visit <http://www.maine.gov/mlti/events/regional/>. If you missed the meeting for your region, please feel free to register for a meeting in another region.



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NSF Grant

Attention all 7th and 8th grade science teachers! Here's a wonderful opportunity for professional development. The National Science Foundation has awarded a \$1.35 million grant to the Foundation for Blood Research, a non-profit biomedical research facility in Scarborough.

The grant will fund a three-year project, *EcoScienceWorks* through which teachers and students can learn "how IT skills and tools can be used to identify, investigate, and model



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possible solutions to scientific problems."



The project is seeking teachers who are interested in participating in a pilot program. Participants will receive a stipend and CEU credits as well as free, extensive professional development. For more information, read the article on *MaineLearns* and download the participants' information sheet. Also see <http://www.fbr.org/swksweb/esw.html> to learn more about the project.

Fall Content Meeting Reminder

The Fall 2005 round of MLTI Content Meetings is well underway. Please remind teachers that these free professional development opportunities are available to them.

We are offering four different content-related sessions in each region and suggest that teachers choose the day or days that best fit their needs at this time. The choices are: Day 1 - *Information Literacy: Guiding Student Research Across the Curriculum*; Day 2 - *Laptops and*

Literacy Across the Curriculum; Day 3 - Forces and Motion - Best Practices In Science Standards Learning; and Day 4 - Integrating Technology with Math Texts and Standards.

For information about dates and locations of these sessions in each of the regions, please visit the MLTI registration page at <http://www.maine.gov/mlti/events/contentArea/>. Teachers who missed the Content Meetings in their regions are welcome to register in another region.



[Click on Professional Development- Content Meetings- Fall 2005 Content Meetings](#)

Tech Integrators Meeting

MLTI will be hosting another Technology Integration Leadership meeting on November 18. The meeting will be held in Portland with the exact location to be announced as soon as it is confirmed.

This meeting is a follow-up to meetings held in the spring when educators from all over the state who are interested in furthering technology integration in their schools convened in Belfast and in Portland. The agenda for



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November's meeting will include discussion about how Tech Integrators can assess the level of technology integration in their buildings and how to use that information. The afternoon will feature guest speaker Alan

November. To learn more about Alan's work, visit <http://www.novemberlearning.com>. Details about this meeting will be sent to Tech Integrators and posted on *MaineLearns* as soon as they are available.

Home Internet Access

One of the goals of MLTI is equity – equal access to technology for all students. To help us reach that goal, the Maine Learning Technology Foundation has partnered with Great Works Internet to expand the opportunity for MLTI students to gain access to the Internet from their homes. To learn more about the Home Access Project for MLTI students and staff, you can download a packet of information at: <http://www.mlti.org/portals/docs/HomeAccess.pdf>

As part of the Home Access Project, these three related plans are available for MLTI

participants: Free Access, Discounted Dial-Up and Discounted Broadband. This packet includes the forms necessary to enroll qualified students in

the free accounts and more details on the discounted plans available to students and staff from GWI. Please e-mail homeaccess@mltfoundation.org with any questions.



Podcasting at MSK

Have you beeen wondering what this new podcasting fad is all about? Ask a student at the Middle School of the Kennebunks! Students in Mary McCarthy's classes have been learning about and experimenting with podcasting.

The students have been studying technology and communicating with images in their art classes. The next logical step was to learn about communication with audio. The students listened to some examples of podcasts (including a podcast by two of their fellow students) and received some basic instruction in audio production and editing. Then, working in groups of two, the students produced their own

short podcasts. They used Sound Studio to record and edit their "digital radio shows." They then mixed their voice audio with music loops created with Garage Band. The results included some very unusual and creative podcasts. One group decided to use their learning from Social Studies class about the Revolutionay War to create a podcast reenactment of "the shot heard round the world."

The podcasts were posted on the schools file server so they could be shared with other students and teachers at MSK. For another example of how podcasts can be used as tools for teaching and learning, visit Bob Sprankle's site at <http://bobsprankle.com>

MLTI Update

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by the MLTI Staff**

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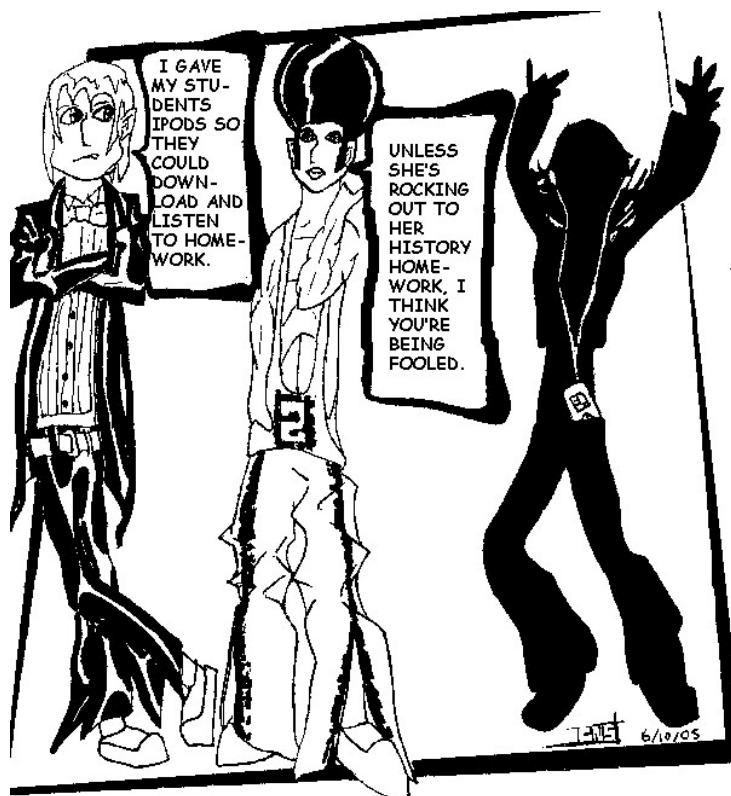
Read MLTI Update online!
<http://www.mainelearns.org>



Click on MLTI Newsletters

Kudos to...

...ACTEM for sponsoring a very successful MaineED conference on October 14 and to everyone who shared their knowledge and expertise there.



Quote of the Month

“Why shouldn’t we give our teachers a license to obtain software, all software, any software, for nothing? Does anyone demand a licensing fee each time a child is taught the alphabet?”

William Gibson

Barbara's and Phil's Picks

It is **Phil's** turn this month and he has chosen two sites from NASA. In his words...

“For a few years, I was a NASA/JPL Ambassador to the Solar System. My job was to spread the word locally about the JPL robotic missions. I was lucky enough to receive training by web and conference calls from the Principal Investigators of those missions. So, as the science and math guy for MLTI, I am recommending the *Genesis* website
<http://genesismission.jpl.nasa.gov/educate/index.html> as a favorite for educators. You will find rich

content, lesson plans, an interactive periodic table, and slide shows that can be very useful to studying about chemistry and cosmology.

Another site from NASA that is slightly obscure is *Practical Uses of Math and Science* <http://pumas.jpl.nasa.gov>. Not a whiz-bang multimedia site, it has 57 (so far) documents of lesson plans K-12 about uses of math and science. One example of a lesson is, *The Mathematical Implications of Lying*, and is designed for elementary school classes.

Next month: Barbara's Picks